



Roll Call Training Bulletin

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Sam Somers Jr., Chief of Police

Volume 50

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Background/Intro

Due to the recent increase in auto theft incidents, the Department sought out the most appropriate charging documents for when suspects were arrested in relation to these thefts. Many times officers use the well-known codes, including 10851(a) VC and 496d(a) PC. Additional research confirmed that similar to petty thefts, 666.5(a) is a penal code directly related to habitual car thieves.

What is 666.5(a) PC?

Penal Code 666.5(a) PC is a chargeable offense that is also a **sentencing enhancement** for persons who have prior felony convictions for:

- Motor vehicle theft (10851(a) VC)
- Knowingly possess/purchase/receive a stolen vehicle (496d(a) PC)
- Grand theft involving a vehicle, regardless of prison time served or lack thereof

The D.A.'s Office is awarded a grant to specifically prosecute repeat offender cases involving auto theft-related offenses. They especially target repeat offenders involved in carjacking incidents and/or felony pursuits.

What does this mean?

Officers **should** conduct a criminal history check of their suspect(s), searching for prior applicable felony convictions. If any are discovered, they should add 666.5(a) PC to the charge sheet. The court case and adjudication date **must** be contained in the Probable Cause Declaration form. This will increase their bail amount. The following is an example of how bail is typically set:

BAIL SCALE	
CHARGE	AMOUNT
10851(a) VC	\$20,000
496d(a) PC	\$5,000
666.5 PC	\$10,000
Any prior felony conviction, where prison time was served	\$15,000 / stackable
Any prior felony conviction, where no prison time was served	\$10,000 / stackable
Any prior violent felony conviction	\$500,000 / stackable



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The following are two recent examples of the use of 666.5(a) and the case results:

- Suspect was charged with 10851(a), 496d(a), 2800.2(a), & 666.5(a).
He received 2 years.
- Suspect was charged with 10851(a), 496d(a), & 666.5(a).
He received 2 years, 8 months.